

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6267

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: CHINESE/AMERICAN DICTIONARIES FOR VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

REFERENCE: STATE 177432

1. TWO THOUSAND (2,000) CHINESE/ENGLISH DICTIONARIES WITH MANDARIN ROMANIZATION AVAILABLE HONG KONG. TITLE "A NEW PRACTICAL CHINESE/ENGLISH DICTIONARY". COST: \$4.60 EA. (U.S.) OR \$22.80 (H.K.). ESTIMATED WEIGHT OF DICTIONARIES 2,750 KILOS (APPROX. 6,050 LBS.). AIRFREIGHT HK/SAN DIAGO \$6,600 (U.S.). SURFACE FRIEHGT (DOOR-TO-DOOR) \$1600 (U.S.).

2. CHINESE/ENGLISH DICTIONARY WITH CANTONESE ROMANIZATION HARD TO COME BY IN HONG KONG. CAN SUPPLY ONLY 100 COPIES OF A DICTIONARY, "STUDENTS CANTONESE/ENGLISH DICTIONARY" BY MEYER AND WEMTE FOR ABOUT \$11.00 (U.S.) EACH. ONLY THIRD EDITION, 1947 AVAILABLE. DICTIONARY PUT OUT BY THE MARYKNOLL RELIGIOUS MISSIONARIE S OF MARYKNOLL, NEW YOKR. CONSULATE CHINESE SPEAKERS FEEL THAT THE CANTONESE DIALECT, AS SPOKEN IN MOST PLACES IS FULL OF SLANG. THIS DICTIONARY CONSIDERED BY CHINESE SPEAKING OFFICERS HERE AS INADEQUATE AS TRANSLATION TOOL EXCEPT FOR SIMPLIEST OF CONVERSATIONS. IF DEPARTMENT STILL INTERESTED IN THIS DICTIONARY, PERHAPS QUICKEST WAY TO OBTAIN LARGE QUANTITY IS FROM MARYKNOLLS OF NEW YORK.
CROSS

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